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10/726,841	12/02/2003	John Hines	127-0013	5556
22120 7590 09/17/2007 ZAGORIN O'BRIEN GRAHAM LLP 7600B NORTH CAPITAL OF TEXAS HIGHWAY SUITE 350 AUSTIN, TX 78731			EXAMINER JOHNSON, CARLTON	
			ART UNIT 2136	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/726,841

Applicant(s)

HINES ET AL.

Examiner

Carlton V. Johnson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responding to application papers filed **7-9-2007**.
2. Claims **1 - 22** are pending. Claims **3 - 22** are new. Claims **1, 2** have been cancelled. Claims **3, 11, 16, 21** are independent.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 7/9/2007 with respect to claims 1 and 2 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

- 3.1 In addition, Applicant argues that the referenced prior art does not disclose, a hash value computed from a resultant CRL (t+n). (see Remarks Pages 7-8)

There is no disclosure of a "t+n" value in the specification or original claims. If Applicant feels there is disclosure for this limitation please indicate the required citation for confirmation. As per the specification, a hash (t+1) is computed from a CRL (t) and CRL (t+1) (see specification paragraph [0022]). The resultant hash is based on a (t+1) index, which is the same time index for the delta CRL and CRL(t+1) list. There does not appear to be a generation of a resultant hash based on a (t+n) index where n is greater than 1, which is suggested by applicant's remarks.

The Pitsos prior art discloses wherein a hash generated from PKI certificate information including revocation information. The Pitsos prior art discloses a list of key certificates, which have revocation information included for a CRL list. The generated list can be a full or partial list of CRL revocation information (a delta CRL).

3.2 The examiner has considered the applicant's remarks concerning a PKI mechanism operational in a bandwidth-limited environment, which creates a periodic chain of PKI, related updates, and designated as a DeltaCRL. Changes in CRLs are periodically generated as DeltaCRLs that allow for the iterative generation of an updated CRL from a known base CRL and the application of the DeltaCRLs.

After an additional analysis of the applicant's invention, remarks, and a search of the available prior art, it was determined that the current set of prior art consisting of Zhao (7,124,295) and Pitsos (7,051,204) discloses the applicant's invention including disclosures in Remarks dated July 9, 2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims **3 - 22** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Zhao et al.** (US Patent No. **7,124,295**) and in view of **Pitsos** (US Patent No. **7,051,204**).

Regarding Claim 3, Zhao discloses a method for coordinating update of certificate revocation information in a distributed public key infrastructure (PKI) environment, the

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method comprising:

- b) computing an update to a local certificate revocation list state by applying the received delta CRL to produce a resultant local CRL state; (see Zhao col. 5, lines 24-32:) and

Zhao discloses wherein receiving a delta coded update to a certificate revocation list (a delta CRL) together with an associated first hash value, the delta CRL encoding an update to a preceding certificate revocation list state $CRL(t)$. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: update CRL) Zhao does not specifically disclose the first hash value computed as a function of at least a resultant state $CRL(t+n)$ computable by applying the delta CRL to the $CRL(t)$ state, and a second hash value as a function of at least the resultant local CRL state and comparing the second and first hash values.

However, Pitsos discloses:

- a) receiving an associated first hash value, the first hash value computed as a function of at least a resultant state $CRL(t+n)$ computable by applying the delta CRL to the $CRL(t)$ state; (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)
- c) validating the update at least in part by computing a second hash value as a function of at least the resultant local CRL state and comparing the second and first hash values. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4,

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lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values, PKI hash lists)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36: "*... For signing data a hash value of the data is calculated in order to subsequently sign only the hash value of the data. By applying a hash algorithm to any given data a single unique hash value is achieved, which is much shorter than the data itself. However, it is nearly impossible to create data matching a given hash value. ...*")

Regarding Claim 4, Zhao discloses the method of claim 3, further comprising:

requiring, as a condition precedent to the update, that a transmission that conveys the delta CRL include a valid digital signature establishing a trusted source thereof. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 39-41: signature attached to delta CRL)

Regarding Claim 5, Zhao discloses the method of claim 3. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL processing system) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby the first

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hash value is computed as a function of both the CRL(t) and CRL(t+n) states, and wherein the second hash value is computed as a function of both a prior local CRL state and the resultant local CRL state. However, Pitsos discloses wherein the first hash value is computed as a function of both the CRL(t) and CRL(t+n) states, and wherein the second hash value is computed as a function of both a prior local CRL state and the resultant local CRL state. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first, second) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 6, Zhao discloses the method of claim 3, further comprising: requesting a CRL update, the request indicating a base t beyond which update is desired; and receiving in response to the request, plural delta CRLs including the first delta CRL and at least one other delta CRL together. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: request/response for update CRL; Figure 4; col. 5, lines 4-9: multiple delta CRLs)

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Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby respective associated hash values including the first hash value and at least one other hash value, wherein each hash value is computed as a function of a respective resultant certificate revocation list (CRL) state. However, Pitsos discloses wherein respective associated hash values including the first hash value and at least one other hash value, wherein each hash value is computed as a function of a respective resultant certificate revocation list (CRL) state. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first, one other) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 7, Zhao discloses the method of claim 6. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL generation system) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby each of the hash values is computed as a function of both a respective prior CRL state and the respective resultant CRL state from which the associated delta CRL is derived.

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However, Pitsos discloses wherein each of the hash values is computed as a function of both a respective prior CRL state and the respective resultant CRL state from which the associated delta CRL is derived. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (each hash value) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 8, Zhao discloses the method of claim 6, further comprising:

performing successive updates to the local certificate revocation list state by applying successive ones of the delta CRLs received in response to the request; and validating the successive updates based on the respective associated hash values. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 4-9: multiple deltas CRLs)

Regarding Claim 9, Zhao discloses the method of claim 6, wherein the base t is a temporal index. (see Zhao col. 1, lines 17-19: is a time index for certificate revocation)

Regarding Claim 10, Zhao discloses the method of claim 3, further comprising: if the validating is unsuccessful, requesting a complete copy of a current certificate revocation list. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 27-30: transfer complete copy of CRL (updates appended to previous CRL, entire CRL))

Regarding Claim 11, Zhao discloses a method for coordinating update of certificate revocation information in a distributed public key infrastructure (PKI) environment, the method comprising:

- a) preparing a first delta coded update to a certificate revocation list (a first delta CRL), the first delta CRL encoding an update sufficient to produce a subsequent certificate revocation list state $CRL(t+n)$ from a preceding certificate revocation list state $CRL(t)$; (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: updated information (delta CRL) for CRL (first, second))

Zhao discloses wherein transmitting the delta CRL, and a base t . (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL transmitted in reply to request; col. 1, lines 17-19: base t (temporal) processing for delta information) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby computing an associated first hash value as a function of at least the $CRL(t+n)$ state, and transmitting the associated first hash value in response to a request for certificate revocation list update.

However, Pitsos discloses:

- b) computing an associated first hash value as a function of at least the CRL(t+n) state; (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values) and
- c) transmitting the associated first hash value in response to a request for certificate revocation list update beyond a base t. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 12, Zhao discloses the method of claim 11. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL processing system) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby the first hash value is computed as a function of both the CRL(t) and CRL(t+n) states. However, Pitsos discloses wherein the first hash value is computed as a function of both the

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CRL(t) and CRL(t+n) states. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 13, Zhao discloses the method of claim 11, further comprising: receiving a CRL update request indicating a base t beyond which update is desired; and transmitting in response to the request, plural delta CRLs including the first delta CRL and at least one other delta CRL together with respective. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL request/response; col. 1, lines 17-19: base t (time index) processing; col. 5, lines 4-9: multiple delta CRLs) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby associated hash values including the first hash value and at least one other hash value, wherein each hash value is computed as a function of at least a respective resultant certificate revocation list (CRL) state from which the associated delta CRL is derived. However, Pitsos discloses wherein associated hash values including the first hash value and at

least one other hash value, wherein each hash value is computed as a function of at least a respective resultant certificate revocation list (CRL) state from which the associated delta CRL is derived. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (associated, first, one other) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 14, Zhao discloses the method of claim 13. (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL processing system) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby each of the hash values is computed as a function of both a respective prior CRL state and the respective resultant CRL state from which the associated delta CRL is derived.

However, Pitsos discloses wherein each of the hash values is computed as a function of both a respective prior CRL state and the respective resultant CRL state from which the associated delta CRL is derived. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (each) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list

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of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 15, Zhao discloses the method of claim 13, further comprising:

- a) performing successive updates to the local certificate revocation list state by applying successive ones of the delta CRLs received in response to the request; (see Zhao col. 5, lines 4-9: update CRL information with multiple delta CRLs) and

Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby validating the successive updates based on comparison of the associated hash values with respective locally computed hash values.

However, Pitsos discloses:

- b) validating the successive updates based on comparison of the associated hash values with respective locally computed hash values. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (associated, locally) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate

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revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed;
col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash
values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates, and perform verification and validation of hash value(s). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 16, Zhao discloses a system comprising:

- a) first and second validation authorities (VAs) communicatively coupled to propagate certificate revocation list (CRL) information; (see Zhao col. 2, lines 44-46: certification authority (validation authorities))

Zhao discloses wherein the first VA configured to prepare delta CRLs in correspondence with updates from a certificate authority (CA), each delta CRL encoding a respective update sufficient to produce a next certificate revocation list state $CRL(t+n)$ from a preceding certificate revocation list state $CRL(t)$; (see Zhao col. 2, lines 44-46: multiple Certificates Authorities (VAs); col. 3, lines 5-10: generate

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a delta CRL based on a request) And, Zhao discloses wherein the second VA configured to receive the delta CRLs from the first VA, to calculate based thereon updates to local certificate revocation list states by applying the received delta CRL to produce a resultant local CRL state. (see Zhao col. 2, lines 44-46: multiple Certificate Authorities (VAs); col. 2, lines 57-62: apply delta CRL to produce resultant CRL) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby the first VA further configured to compute respective first hash values as a function of respective sequentially adjacent pairs of states $CRL(t)$ and $CRL(t+n)$, and to validate each update based at least in part on comparison of respective first hash values received from the first VA with second hash values computed as a function of respective prior local CRL states and resultant local CRL states.

However, Pitsos discloses:

- b) wherein further configured to compute respective first hash values as a function of respective sequentially adjacent pairs of states $CRL(t)$ and $CRL(t+n)$. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)
- c) wherein to validate each update based at least in part on comparison of respective first hash values received from the first VA with second hash values computed as a function of respective prior local CRL states and resultant local CRL states. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-

32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates and validate generated hash values. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 17, Zhao discloses the system of claim 16, wherein transmission of a given delta CRL and its associated first hash value are secured using a digital signature. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 39-41: digital signature utilized for security) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby a first hash value. However, Pitsos discloses wherein a first hash value. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked

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certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 18, Zhao discloses the system of claim 16, wherein the delta CRLs and associated first hash values are received via an intermediary. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 24-27: remote server (intermediary) received delta CRLs) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby first hash values. However, Pitsos discloses wherein first hash values. (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value (first) generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 19, Zhao discloses a computer program product encoded in one or

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more media and including instruction sequences executable on a processor of a system that hosts a validation authority to perform the receiving, computing and validating steps of claim 3. (see Zhao col. 6, lines 33-41: software implementation, instructions)

Regarding Claim 20, Zhao discloses a computer program product encoded in one or more media and including instructions sequences executable on a processor of a system that hosts a validation authority to perform the preparing, computing and transmitting steps of claim 10. (see Zhao col. 6, lines 33-41: software implementation, instructions)

Regarding Claim 21, Zhao discloses a computer readable encoding of a delta CRL, the computer readable encoding encoded, at least transiently in a medium, and comprising:

- a) delta coded certificate revocation list (CRL) update data that allows a receiving validation authority to generate an updated CRL by applying the delta coded CRL update to a previous CRL state; (see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: generate a delta CRL list)
- c) a digital signature establishing identity of a source of the computer readable encoding. (see Zhao col. 5, lines 39-41: digital signature appended)

Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby a self-validating indicator encoding a hash computed not as a function of the delta coded CRL update itself, but rather as a function of the next certificate revocation list state $CRL(t+n)$ which may be

generating by applying the delta coded CRL update to a previous certificate revocation list state $CRL(t)$.

However, Pitsos discloses:

- b) a self-validating indicator encoded in association with the delta coded CRL update, the self-validating indicator encoding a hash computed not as a function of the delta coded CRL update itself, but rather as a function of the next certificate revocation list state $CRL(t+n)$ which may be generating by applying the delta coded CRL update to a previous certificate revocation list state $CRL(t)$; (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing as a validation indication subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates and validation of generated hash values. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Regarding Claim 22, Zhao discloses the computer readable encoding of claim 21.

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(see Zhao col. 3, lines 5-10: delta CRL information processing system) Zhao does not specifically disclose whereby the encoded hash is computed as a function of both the next state CRL(t+n) and the previous state CRL(t). However, Pitsos discloses wherein the encoded hash is computed as a function of both the next state CRL(t+n) and the previous state CRL(t). (see Pitsos col. 2, lines 9-19: hash value generation; col. 4, lines 27-32: certificate revocation information; col. 4, lines 47-51: list of certificate information, signed; col. 5, lines 10-16: comparison (verification, validation) of hash (meta hash) values)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zhao as taught by Pitsos to enable the capability to generate a hash value utilizing a subset of PKI certificate information such as a set of revoked certificates or delta set of revoked certificates. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the teachings of Pitsos in order to enable the capability to increased secure protection of data due to difficulty in reproduction of data protected by a hash procedure. (see Pitsos col. 1, lines 31-36)

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE**

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MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlton V. Johnson whose telephone number is 571-270-1032. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday , 8:00 - 5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

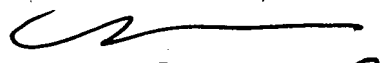


CVJ

September 4, 2007

Carlton V. Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2136

NASSER MOAZZAMI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100


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